



## Middletown Police Department

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September 22, 2014

Press Release: Two Middletown Residents arrested for Animal Cruelty.

**Christopher James age 45**

452 Washington Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

Bond: PTA court set

Court Date: October 1, 2014

**Charges:**

Cruelty to Animals (2 counts)  
Failure to Have Current Rabies Vaccination (3 counts)  
Unlicensed Dog (3 counts)

**Lori James (age 44)**

452 Washington Street  
Middletown, CT 06457

Bond: Court Set PTA

Court Date: October 1, 2014

Cruelty to Animals (3 counts)  
Failure to Vaccinate (3 counts)  
Failure to License (3 counts)

*"To proudly serve in partnership with the community through a commitment to  
excellence, professionalism and integrity"*

On Monday September 22, 2014, Lori James and Christopher James were stopped for motor vehicle violations in the area of Washington Street. Mr. and Mrs. James had outstanding warrants for animal cruelty. Both were arrested for the above charges.

Middletown Animal Control Officer Gail Petras received a complaint on April 15, 2014 that Mr. and Mrs. James had three dogs that they were unable to properly care for and the dogs were neglected. The ACO received pictures of an emaciated white pit bull. In the picture every vertebrae could be seen on the dog all the way through the tail. Every rib was clearly protruding as well.

On April 16, 2014 the ACO received a call for a roaming white pit bull in the area of the James' home. It was determined that the pit bull belonged to the James family and they had let the dog "go" earlier in the day. During the investigation it was determined that the James family had three dogs, two of which were severely malnourished.

"Ghost" is the white pit bull who is deaf. It was later determined that Ghost originally belonged to another owner. His name is "Capone". "Capone's" owner had been hospitalized, and due to unforeseen circumstances Capone had been handed over to several people until he ended up with Mr. and Mrs. James. Capone is back with his original owner and is doing very well.

"Coco" teacup pit bull

"Jade" Shepard/pit bull mix.

"Coco" and "Jade" were also placed in new homes.

None of the dogs had any medical problems and once given food gained weight and regained their health.

The Middletown Animal Control office will investigate complaints of animal cruelty or neglect. If you see an animal that is being mistreated please contact the ACO at 860-638-4030.